



Press Release

Official Launching of the Tablet Computer Based Survey Data Collection System

Department of Census and Statistics
Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs

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The Department of Census and Statistics is entrusted with the responsibility of conducting censuses and surveys and preparing official statistics on demographic, social and economic conditions of the country. Sri Lanka Labour Force survey is one of the main surveys conducted by the Department with an annual sample of 25,000 households. The main objective of the survey is to estimate current employment, unemployment and labour force trends of the country.

From 2017 onwards, it has been arranged to conduct the Sri Lanka Labour Force survey using CAPI (Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing) method, which enables to enter data to the computer at the time of data collection. This system has been established by the Department of Census and Statistics in collaboration with Republic of Korea under the “KOSTAT” project. The Secretary to the Ministry of Telecommunication & Digital Infrastructure attended this event as the Chief Guest.

Dr. Amara Satharasinghe, Director General of the Department of Census and Statistics said that the Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing system enables further improving the quality and timeliness of official statistics compiled by the Department.

“KOSTAT” project was implemented by the Department of Census and Statistics during the period of 2014 – 2016, with the financial assistance of the Government of Republic of Korea and technical assistance from the National Statistics Office of Korea in three stages. Under the three year-long project, in 2014 the statistical data base “LANKA SIS” was launched. In 2015, a fully equipped two computer labs were installed, and thereby enhanced the training capacity of the Department.

The theme of the 2016 component of the project was to use of developments in Information and Communication Technology to further improve the quality and timeliness of the official statistics compiled by the Department. Under this component, the Department received all necessary hardware including tablet computers, software and technical assistance to set up the system and to train the DCS staff, from the Government of Republic of Korea, Dr. Satharasinghe said.


Dr. A.J. Satharasinghe
Director General
Department of Census and Statistics